

February 17, 2014

TO THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT GENERAL LAW COMMITTEE:

We are writing in reference to House Bill 5100, an act concerning safety and certification standards for the spray foam insulation industry, as we have been personally affected by spray polyurethane foam (SPF) insulation.

We are in support of the State making it mandatory that all installers of SPF carry insurance to protect homeowners who are negatively affected by SPF products. Pre-testing of air quality should also be mandatory to identify potential problems and changes in air quality after installation of SPF to include total new house construction.

We had SPF installed in the attic of our home in September of 2012. There was a chemical odor when we moved back into our house four days after the installation. We only stayed in the house for one week because we both experienced burning of the eyes, nose, and throat and heaviness in the chest. We have both been experiencing negative health impacts ever since the installation.

Although the insulation was removed less than three months after installation, odor and off gassing have continued to the present, more than two years and four months. Testing has shown that chemicals have permeated the roof decking, interior walls of the first floor and basement wall insulation as well.

The cost of removing and replacing the roof and interior walls and insulation would be as much or more than building a new house. It has become clear that we will never be able to live in our home.

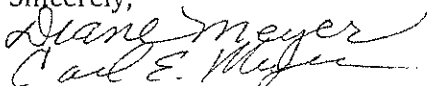
We were unable to collect on our own house insurance policy because it excluded both damage caused during remodeling and damage caused by chemicals.

We have not been able to obtain assistance from the installer or the manufacturer to help resolve the problems with our house, nor has any government agency assisted us. We are aware that there are many other homeowners whose lives have been disrupted without recourse, as ours have been.

Contractors should not be able to work in homes unless they are properly insured with liability coverage for the product they are installing.

We believe it is imperative that the State adopt definitive insurance measures to protect consumers.

Sincerely,



Carl and Diane Meyer
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